

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to wet laid nonwoven glass fiber webs, filter media formed of or containing wet laid nonwoven glass fibers webs, and methods of making the same using a wet laid processing technique. The filter media are particularly advantageous in that it has been discovered that adjusting the pH during wet laid processing will produce a glass fiber web having improved filtration properties. In particular, neutralizing the pH of a slurry containing mainly glass wool fibers unexpectedly yields a non-electret, filter media that has a gamma value of at least about 14, which is a significant improvement over non-electret, wet laid glass filter media currently on the market which have been shown to have a gamma value that does not exceed 13. The nonwoven glass webs prepared according to the present invention preferably contain a combination of glass wool fibers and chopped glass fibers. The resulting glass fiber web can be used alone, or can be combined with additional fiber webs, to form a filter media which can be used in a variety of filtering applications.

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